

DATAMASTER

COMPUTER CASSETTE



MODEL: 5500

INSTRUCTION MANUAL

INTRODUCTION

Congratulations . . .

You have just purchased the Model 5500 Datamaster Computer Cassette. This innovative product employs the latest solid state technology to assure you of years of trouble-free service.

The Model 5500 cassette unit was designed for use on the Commodore VIC 20 or VIC 64 computers.

This cassette unit is a device for storing and/or recalling computer programs on ordinary cassette tapes. It may be used for saving programs you have written and want to recall for later use. It may also be used to read pre-recording programs that you have purchased.

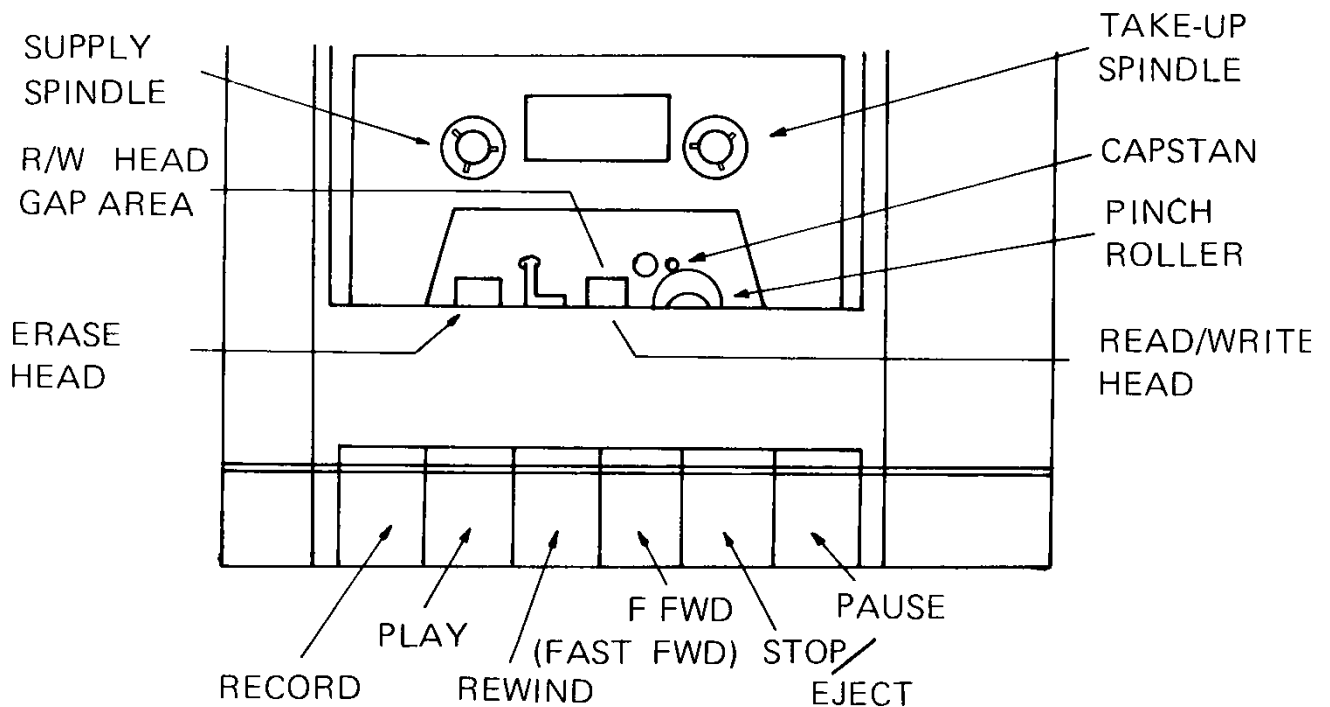
Be sure to read this instruction manual carefully before installing and using your Datamaster Computer Cassette.

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FUNCTIONS & CONTROLS

CALLOUTS



HOW TO OPERATE YOUR COMPUTER CASSETTE

Your cassette is supplied with a cord attached. This cord connects the cassette unit to the VIC computer. Power is supplied from the computer to the cassette unit through this cord. The computer and cassette also communicate through the cord.

Turn off the computer before connecting the Datamaster Computer Cassette unit to it.

Plug the attached cord into a connector at the back of the VIC computer. The plug will only fit on the specific connector one way. PLEASE DO NOT FORCE IT ON OR YOU MAY DAMAGE THE CONNECTOR.

It is important to keep the cassette unit at least two feet away from the TV and radio emissions from the TC on interfere with the correct operation of the cassette unit.

HOW TO PERFORM A PRELIMINARY CHECKOUT

Before using your cassette drive unit to recall or store programs, you should complete the preliminary checks – which are described below:

1. Turn off the computer and connect the cassette unit through the cord to the computer.
2. Ensure that the cassette deck motor is off by checking that all of the function keys are up. If any are not, press the STOP button.
3. Turn the computer on.
4. Press the PLAY button on the cassette unit. Look to see that, as the button is engaged, the READ/WRITE heads move towards the spindles and the capstan comes into contact with the pinch roller (see Fig. 1). The take up spindle should be moving smoothly in an anti-clockwise direction.
5. Now press the STOP button. The heads should move back and the spindle stop.
6. Press the REWIND button. The tape heads should remain in the inactive position and the supply spindle should move rapidly clockwise.
7. Press STOP again and then F. FWD. The tape heads should still remain in the inactive position and the take-up spindle should move rapidly anti-clockwise.
8. Press STOP once more and then GENTLY attempt to press REC. You should feel strong mechanical resistance.
9. If all has worked, your cassette has been properly checked and is ready go to work.

HOW TO CARE FOR YOUR TAPES

Be careful to rewind all tapes to the beginning after use as this protects the recording from abrasion and corrosion. Do not store or place any tapes near strong magnetic fields such as may occur near loudspeakers or large motors.

HOW TO CLEAN AND DEMAGNETIZE YOUR CASSETTE HEADS

The cassette uses magnetic heads to record and retrieve the information on the cassette tapes. These heads tend to accumulate residue and dirt from the tape as the tape moves across them. After a period of time the accumulation lifts the tape slightly away from the heads drastically degrading the signal from the head.

Therefore, the following procedure should be used after every 10 to 20 hours of tape playing time to ensure that your cassette continues to read and write reliably.

You'll need the following tools and materials:

- Tape head cleaner. Alcohol may be used in emergency, but is not recommended for long term use.

NOTE: Do not use trichloroethane or any other plastic or rubber solvent.

- Cotton swabs.
- Tape head demagnetizer. Unit must have protective plastic or rubber covering on the piece that comes into contact with the tape heads so as not to scratch delicate head gap.

FOLLOW THESE PROCEDURES

1. Turn the computer off.
2. Press EJECT to open cover, then press PLAY to expose heads.
3. Put tape head cleaner on one side of a cotton swab. Gently wipe the surfaces of RECORD/PLAY and erase head (see Fig. 1).
Scrub gently. (If there is any build-up of tape oxide particles on or around the head gap of the RECORD/PLAY head, it is sufficient reason for unreliable performance.)
Also clean pinch roller and other tape bearing surfaces if tape head cleaner is suitable for this purpose (check label).
4. Plug in demagnetizer, and activate it while it is at least one foot away from cassette heads.
5. Slowly move demagnetizer up to RECORD/PLAY head and around on head surface. Rate of motion should be approximately one inch per second during this time.
6. Slowly move demagnetizer to erase head and then to all other ferrous metal surfaces which come into proximity with the tape.
7. Now slowly move demagnetizer away from heads. Do not deactivate field until demagnetizer is at least two feet away from heads.

The tape head cleaning and demagnetizing procedure is now complete. Inspect RECORD/PLAY, surface for wear. If the tape has worn a groove on head surface more than a couple of tape thicknesses deep, program reading performance may be poor. If so, then replacement of tape head is indicated. (Normally few thousand hours of tape running time have been completed before replacement is required.)

ONE YEAR LIMITED WARRANTY

RIMS International Ltd. warrants to the original purchaser of this product that it will be free of defects in material and workmanship for one year from the date of original purchase.

During this warranty period, it will be either repaired or replaced at our option, and without charge.

The original consumer must return it with proof of the date of original purchase, to the dealer or mail it, properly packed, prepaid, and insured, to:

RIMS INTERNATIONAL (Service Center)
8 West 37th Street 4 th Floor
New York, N.Y. 10018
212-564-2943

If you return it after the one year warranty period, it will be repaired or replaced at our option for a \$20.00 service charge. Please, enclose check or money order, when you carefully pack it to return to us. Please also include your name, address, city, state and zip code.

Damage caused in transit, by abuse, accident, negligence or through repairs made by others are not covered by this Warranty.

This Warranty gives you specific legal rights and you may have other rights which may vary from state to state.

WARRANTY SERVICE INSTRUCTIONS

If it becomes necessary to return this unit for service, pack it securely (preferably in the original carton or double-packed). Enclose a letter describing the problem and include your name and address. Also include proof of purchase. Deliver to or ship PREPAID (UPS preferred) to the factory service department:

RIMS INTERNATIONAL (Service Center)
8 West 37th Street 4th Floor
New York, N.Y. 10018
212-564-2943

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